Import of coal

1863. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether our country needs to import coal;

(b) if so, the details of imports made during the last five years; and

(c) whether the imports made be cause of shortage of coal or because of quality, or both?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) The indigenous production of non coking coai is adequate to meet die entire demand in the country. Low ash content coking coal required for integrated steel plants is, however, not produced in adequate quantities.

(b) Details of imports of all grade of coal into the country during the last five years are given below:

DETAILS OF IMPORT {ALL GRADES OF COAL)

(in million tonnes) IData Provisional)

1993-94	7.33
1994-95	10.73
1995-96	12.51
1996-97	14.41
1997-98	17.20

(c) Presently coking coal is being imported into the country for the following reasons:—

(i) To bridge the gap between the requirement and indigenous availability.

(ii) To improve the quality of overall blend for technological reasons for improving blast fur-nance.

At the present level of customs duty and railway freight of the consumer cost of imported non-coking coal is lower than that of domestic non-coking coal in markets near ports.

Complaints about dumping of Coal

1864. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaint about dumping of coai or hard coke, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps Government pro pose to take to stop further dumping of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) Yes, Sir. Complaints have been received from Coal producing companies and coke manufacturers about dumping of Chinese coke.

(b) The dumping of Chinese coke into the country was examined by the designated authority. After hearing the affected parties and considering the submissions of the parties, the designated authority has imposed an anti-dumping duty of matallurgical coke being imnorted from China PR at a rate as equivalent to the difference between Rs. 4673/- and the landed value of me-cokelmt.

Revival plan of ECL

1865. SHRI DIPANKAR MUK HERJEE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the submission before BIFR in Form "AA" in October 1997, ECL had given an outline of revival plan of ECL within Ninth Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;